

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jay Clayton
Chairman
Securities and Exchange Commission
100 F Street NE
Washington, DC 20549

Re: SEC Assistance in Stopping Illegal Internet Wildlife Trafficking

Dear Commissioner Clayton:

Illegal wildlife trafficking is a big business. Traffickers sell poached animal parts, horns, tusks, skins, live animals, and a variety of other products every single day. These illegal sales were estimated to grow from \$10 billion in 2009 as estimated by the Department of State to \$20 billion today as estimated by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime. Technology platforms have played an increasingly important role in illegal wildlife trade as they have grown in sophistication and utility.

Facebook accelerated the illegal wildlife trade by creating new markets and new customers that feed this devastating illegal trade. This is repeatedly brought to their attention, but the company remains insensitive to policing and ending this practice. It was reported a year ago that Facebook was profiting from the heavy use of its platform by those trading in illegal wildlife products purchasing advertisements on Facebook pages that market, facilitate, and enable that illegal trade. Facebook is the most significant bridge between illegal wildlife traffickers and their customers, and the company has done virtually nothing to stop this practice.

Facebook is also under scrutiny for doing little or nothing to impede use of its platforms for numerous illegal activities including prostitution, drug and weapon sales, forced labor, and for allowing privacy abuses. The Cambridge Analytica data sale of information from 87 million users without their knowledge or consent is being investigated by your agency, FBI, and the FTC because of the \$79 billion market cap drop due to

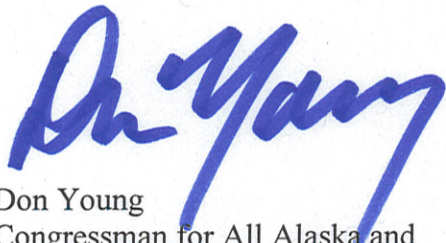
shareholder reaction to this breach. All of this has gone on with investors never being advised of the illegal practices that underlie Facebook's earnings, which seem to be part of the company's ordinary business operations. Each illegal action concerning wildlife, weapons, drugs, prostitution, labor, and money laundering, feed further illegal activity in other of these areas.

We ask that the SEC send a message that Facebook must begin remedying these wildlife trafficking abuses that are misleading investors in the context of the other areas that concern the Commission's regulation of this publicly traded company.

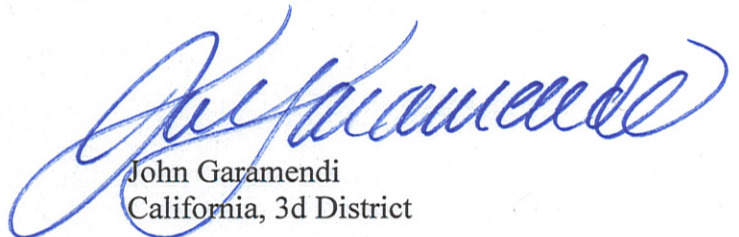
Specifically, we direct your attention to certain SEC whistleblower complaints now filed against Facebook (such as TCR No. 15399-224-182) identifying illegal wildlife trafficking by the company. We believe that the illegal wildlife trafficking issues should be examined and successfully combined with other offenses that have mislead investors in the regulatory review of these matters. We believe that the SEC should impose warranted sanctions regarding illegal wildlife trafficking and those sanctions should fit prominently in any SEC regulatory sanction or action related to Facebook, an outcome that would assist in halting illegal wildlife trafficking.

We would be glad to discuss this issue with you at any time. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Don Young
Congressman for All Alaska and
Dean of the US House of Representatives



John Garamendi
California, 3d District